

REMARKS

Claims 1-47 are pending. By way of this Amendment, claims 1, 20, 21 and 26 have been amended, as suggested by the Examiner during the Interview conducted on December 23, 2008. The specification and the drawings have also been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, no new matter has been added and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks Primary Examiner Hug for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative, Dinh Nguyen, during the personal interview conducted on December 23, 2008.

During the interview, Applicant's representative and the Examiner reviewed the Amendment filed on December 16, 2008 and discussed the present disclosure and the claims in light of the cited prior art. Additionally, Applicant's representative and the Examiner made the following points.

The Examiner stated, "in view of the arguments filed with the amendment, the claims read over the prior art applied previously, Niskanen and Wahren. The Examiner also proposed minor changes in the language of claims 1 and 26 in order to clarify the claims." As such, changes based on the Examiner's suggestions, along with some other changes, are described below.

Claims 1, 20, 21, and 26, along with Figures 1, 2, and 3, and the specification, have been amended herein. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification and

P23272.A08
the drawings.

The specification has been amended to clarify a labeling discrepancy. More specifically, in paragraph [0038] of the specification, the control valves are listed as 32, while in paragraph [0039], the chambers also are listed as 32. Figure 32 should be listed as the control valves and Figure 34 should be listed as the chamber. Therefore, in paragraph [0039] Applicant has changed “chamber 32” to “chamber 34” to be consistent with what is described in paragraph [0040] and the rest of the specification.

The drawings have been amended to replace the German language with English language. Therefore, in each of Figures 1, 2, and 3, Applicant has changed “Luft” to “Air” and “Erdgas” to “Gas.” These amendments merely replace the German words with their English meaning equivalents. Additionally, in Figure 1, the incorrect labeling of “32” (the two lower shown “32” in the Figure 1) has been changed to “34”, consistent with the changes to the specification. Applicant has included Replacement Sheets to correct these inconsistencies in the drawings and annotated sheets showing these corrections labeled in red.

The claims have been amended for purposes of clarity and to comply with suggestions made by the Examiner at the interview on December 23, 2008. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to change “said mixture” to “a mixture of fuel and air.” Support for this is found at least in paragraph [0010] of the specification and this makes it clear exactly what the mixture constitutes. Claim 26 is amended by adding the phrase “with air” to the end of the phrase “at

least one of the first gas and the second gas is mixed.” This makes it clear that the at least one of the first gas and second gas is being mixed with air, rather than something else. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification in at least paragraphs [0022] and [0023] of the specification. Next, claim 20 is amended by inserting “the” before the phrase “at least one mixing element” and claim 21 is also amended for purposes of clarity, in which the phrase “at least one” is inserted prior to “mixing element.” Therefore, claim 20 now reads “cold air fed to the at least one mixing element.”. This feature is disclosed in at least paragraphs [0047] and [0048] of the specification. Thus, all of the changes to the claims have support in the specification.

As indicated above, it was discussed during the interview that the Amendments overcome the rejections made in the previous Office Action. The Examiner indicated that an updated search will be conducted and if no relevant prior art is founded, the Examiner will allow the application. If relevant prior art is founded, the Examiner will make further suggestions to the claims in order to expedited prosecution.

Applicant again thanks the Examiner for his helpful suggestions and the courtesies extended to Applicant’s representative.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be beneficial in order to place this application condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant’s undersigned representatives at the telephone number listed below. Favorable consideration and early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

P23272.A08

Please charge any additional fees necessary for consideration of the papers filed herein, to preserve the pendency of this application and refund excess payments to Deposit Account No. 50-2929, reference Docket Number P23272.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the undersigned may be contacted at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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P23272.A08 AH/DXN/JB/sg